

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	SCHWARTZ, Herbert)	Confirmation No.: 1470
)	
Serial No.:	10/598,223)	Examiner: LEVINE, Joshua
)	
Filed:	August 22, 2006)	Group Art Unit: 3774
)	
Title:	ARTICULAR CARTILAGE)	Attorney Docket No. 3124.006A
	FIXATION DEVICE AND METHOD)	

Mail Stop: RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) AND
RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir/Maddam:

This Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and Response to Final Office Action is being filed in response to the final Office Action mailed October 7, 2011, in connection with the above-captioned application. The Applicant requests that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (hereinafter the "Office") enter this Response to Office Action, and reconsider the claims pending in the application for the reasons discussed below. Since this RCE and Response is being filed on or before January 9, 2012, this Response is timely filed.

Applicant believes that no fees are due in connection with this Response above those associated with the RCE. However, if any fee(s) or extension is required to make this Response timely and acceptable to the Office, including extension of time fees and/or excess claim fees, please consider this a petition therefor, and Applicant's attorney hereby authorizes that any such fee(s) be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 08-1935.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims commencing on page 2.

Remarks commence on page 10.